

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 3-7 and 9-11 were previously cancelled. Claims 2, 14, 15, and 17 have been amended herein. All of the pending claims are presented below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please enter these claims as amended.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method of substantially isolating a constituent of a sample, comprising:
dispersing the sample in a mobile phase;
applying the sample to a first end of a porous capillary column formed in a nonporous substrate, said porous capillary column comprising a matrix including the same material as said nonporous substrate and at least one capture substrate disposed on said matrix; and
drawing the sample across a flowfront through said porous capillary column so as to enhance separation of the constituent from the sample by said at least one capture substrate.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising detecting the constituent with at least one detector disposed proximate a detecting region of said porous capillary column.

3.-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said dispersing comprises dissolving the sample in a liquid mobile phase.

9.-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said applying comprises applying the sample to said porous capillary column with said at least one capture substrate comprising an antibody.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said applying comprises applying the sample to said porous capillary column with said at least one capture substrate comprising an antigen.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising applying a differential pressure to said porous capillary column to effect said drawing.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said drawing occurs without applying differential pressure to said porous capillary column.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein said drawing comprises capillary action induced by said matrix.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said drawing comprises applying an electrical current across a length of said porous capillary column.

18. (Previously presented) A method of identifying the presence of a constituent in a sample, comprising:

providing the sample in a mobile phase;

applying the sample to a first end of a capillary column formed in a nonporous substrate, said capillary column comprising a matrix including the same material as said nonporous substrate;

drawing the sample across a flowfront through said capillary column and in contact with a stationary phase disposed at a selected location along said capillary column; and detecting binding of the constituent with said stationary phase at said selected location.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said detecting comprises applying a detection reagent to at least said selected location and analyzing said detection reagent to determine whether the constituent is present.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein said analyzing comprises quantifying a change in said detection reagent.

21. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said detecting comprises determining an electrical characteristic of said selected location and comparing said electrical characteristic to an electrical characteristic of a control.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising applying said stationary phase to said matrix.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said applying said stationary phase is effected before said applying the sample.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein said applying comprises applying the sample to said capillary column with said stationary phase comprising an antibody.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein said applying comprises applying the sample to said capillary column with said stationary phase comprising an antigen.

26. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising applying a differential pressure to said capillary column to effect said drawing.

27. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said drawing occurs without applying differential pressure to said capillary column.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said drawing comprises capillary action induced by said matrix.

29. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said drawing comprises applying an electrical current across a length of said capillary column.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said applying comprises applying the sample to said porous capillary column with said at least one capture substrate comprising at least one of an antibody and an antigen.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein said applying the sample comprises applying the sample to said capillary column with said stationary phase comprising at least one of an antibody and an antigen.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 2, 2a and 4. A full set of replacement formal drawings is also being transmitted concurrently herewith.

Specifically, FIG. 2 has been revised to delete the reference numeral “ 18’ ” along with its corresponding lead line; FIG. 2a has been revised to delete the reference numeral “ 18’ ” along with its corresponding lead line; and FIG. 4 has been revised to change the reference numeral “114” to --114’-- and to add reference numerals --114-- and --114a-- with their appropriate lead lines. No new matter has been added.